

Labor Resources for Williamston, South Carolina

Executive Summary

This profile contains information about the labor force within a 30 minute and 45 minute commuting distance from the center of Williamston, South Carolina. Williamston is located in Anderson County, South Carolina.

The profile examines three issues: labor force characteristics, the availability of labor, and the average wages and salaries in the community of Williamston.

Labor Situation at a Glance in Williamston, South Carolina

Labor Force Characteristics	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Population, 2004	256,210	531,060	4,198,068
Labor Force, 2004	152,782	317,063	2,046,179
Availability of Labor	within 30 min.	within 45 min.	South Carolina
Unemployed Workers, 2004	8,182	17,342	139,607
Unemployment Rate, 2004	5.4%	6.7%	6.8%
Workers Affected by Layoffs (Past 2 Years)	736	1,402	22,196
Average Wages	Anderson County	South Carolina	United States
2003 Avg. Weekly Wage	\$522	\$581	\$658

Labor Force Characteristics for Williamston, South Carolina

The composition and size of a community's labor force is linked very closely with demographic and economic conditions and trends in the region. The following labor force profile provides basic information on the population base and labor force characteristics so that the reader can better assess labor force conditions in the community.

Labor Force			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force 2004	152,782	317,063	2,046,179
Change since 2000	26,877	57,604	49,079
Population			
Population 2004	256,210	531,060	4,198,068
Change since 2000	12,812	26,101	186,056
Projected 2010	270,776	620,065	4,446,704
Gender Distribution			
Male	124,339	257,326	2,040,261
Female	131,871	273,734	2,132,454
Age Distribution			
Ages 20-34	51,329	109,370	875,330
Ages 35-49	58,071	119,058	925,330
Ages 50-64	45,797	94,509	739,980
20-54 *Prime Working Age	126,320	263,468	2,084,880
Highest Level of Educational Attainment			
High School	74,109	152,413	778,054
Some College	48,202	101,209	500,194
Associate Degree	18,315	37,845	173,428
Bachelors Degree	38,784	79,689	351,526
Post Bachelor	17,539	37,317	178,529

**Prime working age group:*
People between the ages of 18-54 are often referred to as the prime working age group. In staffing a new facility, prudent managers often prefer to staff its production work force with workers whose ages form a normal distribution curve. This provides for stability, flexibility and continuity of knowledge.

Source: 2004 Estimates Based on 2000 U.S. Census of Population and
Woods and Poole, 2003 Edition

Employment Characteristics for Williamston, South Carolina

Total Employment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
2004	144,600	299,721	1,906,571

Total Employment data include all full and part-time wage and salaried workers in the area. These people may or may not reside in the area.

Monthly Employment by Sector In Anderson County			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing and Hunting	273	685	12,379
Mining	33	97	1,603
Utilities	442	1,378	11,891
Construction	6,711	14,934	111,730
Manufacturing	22,588	45,882	275,573
Wood product manufacturing	162	585	8,371
Nonmetallic mineral product manufacturing	621	1,181	9,155
Primary metal manufacturing	1	23	6,317
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	1,638	4,106	27,357
Machinery manufacturing	2,302	4,246	21,278
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	490	878	7,666
Electrical equipment and appliance mfg.	327	887	10,748
Transportation equipment manufacturing	2,713	4,565	30,932
Furniture and related product manufacturing	387	888	4,225
Miscellaneous manufacturing	267	696	7,846
Food manufacturing	356	961	17,832
Beverage and tobacco product manufacturing	-	-	1,445
Textile mills	3,613	6,271	40,207
Textile product mills	751	1,337	9,724
Apparel manufacturing	152	311	5,321
Paper manufacturing	443	1,180	14,710
Printing and related support activities	440	1,017	7,327
Petroleum and coal products manufacturing			288
Chemical manufacturing	1,560	3,474	21,659
Plastics and rubber products manufacturing	4,128	6,982	23,054
Wholesale Trade	4,750	10,280	62,523
Retail Trade	15,899	35,757	224,031
Transportation and Warehousing	4,343	8,156	46,941
Education and Health Services	21,395	55,160	156,232
Leisure and Hospitality	11,431	26,173	192,748
Professional and Business Services	15,791	36,386	186,481

Source: 2003 Covered Wages, SC Employment Securities Commission

Largest Industries by Total Employment In Anderson County, SC

Company Name	City	Primary Product/Service	Employment	Date Est.
Electrolux Home Products	Anderson	Household refrigerators	1500	1987
Robert Bosch Corp	Anderson	Automotive components	1200	1985
Michelin North America	Sandy Springs	Semi-finished rubber products	1100	1975
Honeywell Nylon	Anderson	Nylon fibers	650	1967
Glen Raven Inc	Anderson	Acrylic fabrics	600	1901
Timken Co	Honea Path	Bearings	480	1969
Michelin/Steel Wire Division	Sandy Springs	Steel wire processing	450	
Nutricia Manufacturing USA	Anderson	Vitamins	430	1999
Owens Corning	Anderson	Fibrous glass	400	1951
Ryobi Technologies Inc	Anderson	Corporate offices	374	1952
Associated Fuel Pump Systems	Anderson	Automotive fuel pumps	359	1990
Mount Vernon Mills-La France Industries	La France	Automotive fabric	357	1836
Orian Rugs Inc	Anderson	Machine made oriental rugs	357	1978
Blair Mills LP	Belton	Terrycloth towels & yardage	350	1914
Plastic Omnium LLC	Anderson	Bumpers	340	1994
Hydro Aluminum North America	Belton	Aluminum extrusion	260	1973
Goodman Conveyer Co	Belton	Belt conveyer idlers	250	1990

Employer-Employee Relationship

Employer-employee relations in South Carolina are very stable and the state consistently ranks as one of the least unionized in the nation. In 2004, only 4.5 percent of the state's workers were members of a labor union. Additionally, the state has consistently had one of the lowest work stoppage rates in the United States. On average, less than .01 percent of working time was lost due to strikes in manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries combined.

Availability of Labor

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment

Labor Force Participation & Unemployment			
Year	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Labor Force (2004)	152,782	317,063	2,046,179
Labor Force Change from 2000	26,877	57,604	49,079
Labor Force Participation Rate	60%	60%	49%
Unemployment (2004)	8,182	17,342	139,607
Unemployment Rate	5.4%	6.7%	6.8%

The *labor force participation* rate is the percentage which results from dividing the labor force count by the total population.

Unemployment reflects the total number of persons who do not have a job and are actively seeking employment.

Other Potential Sources of Labor Supply

Total Jobs Lost Due to Mass Closings and Layoffs Past Two Years			
Sector	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Total	736	1,402	22,196
Manufacturing	665	1,223	19,196
Distribution	30	56	1,213
Service	42	123	1,745
Other	-	-	42

Recent closings and layoffs are a rich source of skilled and experienced labor for companies seeking to locate or expand in a given area. Industries in which layoffs and closings occur can provide some indication of the skills and knowledge-base of many unemployed and underemployed workers in a region.

Commuters to Other Areas			
	30 min. Drive time	45 min. Drive time	South Carolina
Commuters to other areas	23,867	54,864	31,833

Source: 2000 U.S. Census of Population

Workers commuting to places outside their residence are a significant source of experienced labor for new and expanding industries. These workers may be willing to consider an opportunity for employment nearer their place of residence.

Recent Graduates of South Carolina's Colleges and Universities

Certificates/Degrees Conferred From Technical Colleges in Select Degrees Within 45 Minute Drive Time of Anderson County, SC	
Degree Area	Two Year Certificates/Degrees Conferred 2002 - 2004
Computer and Information Sciences (Total)	382
Data Processing Technology	278
Engineering Technologies (Total)	245
Electrical ,Electronic & Communications	36
Mechanical Engineering/Tech	13
Mechanic & Repair Technologies (Total)	733
Industrial Electronics	91
HVAC	185
Precision Production (Total)	237
Machine Tool Technology/Machinist	68

Graduation From South Carolina's Four Year Colleges and Universities In Select Degrees		
	Degrees Conferred (2002-2004)	
	Bachelors	Post- Grad
Computer and Information Science (Total)	910	108
Computer Engineering	150	149
Computer Programming	12	5
Engineering & Related Technologies (Total)	1,316	786
Chemical Engineering	136	38
Electrical Engineering	257	150
Industrial Engineering	78	44
Mechanical Engineering	268	95
Business Admin & Management	4,754	1,018
International Business/Trade	178	276

Source: South Carolina Commission on Higher Education

Wages and Salaries

Average Wage and Salary Comparison			
Sector	Anderson County	South Carolina	United States
Avg. Weekly Wages*	\$522	\$581	\$658
Avg. Annual Salary*	\$27,131	\$30,240	\$37,508
Avg. Hourly Prod. Wages**	N/A	\$14.73	\$16.14

*Covered Wages and Employment, 2003, SC Employment Securities Commission

** Employment & Earnings, 2004, U.S. Department of Labor

Average Annual Salary Manufacturing Sectors, 2004		
Sector	Anderson County	South Carolina
Manufacturing Total	\$35,640	\$39,027
Wood product	\$24,723	\$30,808
Nonmetallic mineral product	\$48,459	\$39,031
Primary metal	***	\$49,695
Fabricated metal product	\$32,704	\$37,533
Machinery	\$41,423	\$39,952
Computer and electronic product	***	\$40,186
Electrical equipment and appliance	***	\$40,178
Transportation equipment	\$40,702	\$44,099
Furniture and related product	\$24,167	\$27,907
Miscellaneous	\$26,393	\$34,350
Food	***	\$26,620
Beverage and tobacco product	***	\$35,765
Textile mills	\$29,019	\$31,898
Textile product mills	***	\$25,618
Apparel	***	\$23,705
Paper	\$34,791	\$55,139
Printing and related support activities	\$32,366	\$36,634
Petroleum and coal products	***	\$49,113
Chemical	***	\$50,870
Plastics and rubber products	\$41,441	\$46,620

***Indicates data suppressed

Source: Covered Wages and Employment, SC Employment Securities Commission

Occupational Wages In Williamston and Surrounding Area

Average Hourly Wages of Employees by Selected Non-Exempt Occupations For Anderson Area			
Non-Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Assemblers and Fabricators	\$8.08	\$10.57	\$13.01
Butchers and Meat Cutters	\$9.58	\$11.08	\$12.70
Cabinetmakers and Bench Carpenters	\$10.85	\$11.32	\$12.89
Chemical Equipment Operators	*	*	*
Chemical Plant & System Operators	*	*	*
Electrical & Electronic Equip Tenders	*	*	*
Extruding & Forming Machine Setters	*	*	*
Grinding & Lapping Machine Operators	*	*	*
Logging Equipment Operators	\$8.28	\$11.70	\$15.02
Installation, Maintenance & Repair	\$11.96	\$16.27	\$20.04
Machine Tool Setters & Tenders	\$13.87	\$15.08	\$16.77
Industrial Machinery Mechanics			
Machinists	\$12.90	\$14.76	\$16.85
Packaging & Filling Machine Op	\$9.15	\$11.40	\$13.19
Molding & Casting Machine Op	\$9.84	\$11.23	\$12.72
Sewing Machine Operators	\$6.62	\$8.36	\$9.99
Textile, Cutting Machine Operators	\$9.07	\$10.18	\$11.25
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$12.83	\$15.17	\$16.92
Welders, Cutters & Solderers	\$11.45	\$13.55	\$15.62
Woodworking Machine Setters	\$9.77	\$11.63	\$13.47
Average Salary of Employees by Selected Exempt Occupations For Anderson Area*			
Exempt Occupations	Entry	Average	Experienced
Chemical Engineers	\$56,700	\$66,320	\$72,380
Computer Programmers	\$33,520	\$45,000	\$56,540
Engineers, NEC	*	*	*
First Line Production Man & Sup	\$30,860	\$40,700	\$49,220
Industrial Engineers	\$48,120	\$57,880	\$67,880
Mechanical Engineers	\$44,049	\$49,640	\$56,520

Source: Pendleton District Workforce Investment Area Wage Survey, South Carolina Employment Securities Commission.

* Indicates Suppressed Data or Data Not Available